

REMARKS

For ease of reference, paragraph numbers used herein correspond to like paragraph numbers of the Non-final Office action of June 10, 2003.

1. The Office action cites the applicants' reply filed on 05/23/03 as being "not fully responsive" to the prior Office action.

Specifically, the Office action states "[a]pplicants were requested to select one sequence (primer) to be examined on the merit, no such election has been made."

In response, the applicants have amended independent claim 16 to so recite one sequence (primer), specifically "SEQ ID NO: 1".

New independent claim 89 is directed to a single sequence primer, specifically "SEQ ID NO: 3". New dependent claims 88 and 90 depend from independent claims 16 and 89, respectively, and further comprise "SEQ ID NO: 2" and "SEQ ID NO: 4", respectively.

2. The Office action states the "application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821 through 1.825" and references the Error Report and that "[n]o statement has been provided that the content of the specification and computer readable copies are the same."

In response, per the Error Report provided with the Office action, the applicants have remedied the unintentional Sequence listing errors kindly indicated by the Office on the marked-up copy of the "Raw Sequence Listing".

The applicants also respectfully submit the following items per notation on the Notice to Comply (a copy of said Notice is provided herewith as instructed by the Office):

- a. an initial computer readable form (CRF) of the Sequence Listing;
- b. an initial paper copy of the Sequence Listing, as well as an amendment directing its entry into the specification; and
- c. a statement that the content of the paper and computer readable copies are the same and include no new matter.

Statement regarding content of the paper and computer readable copies of the Sequence Listing provided herewith

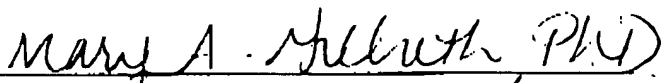
The applicants hereby respectfully state that the content of the paper copy of the Sequence Listing provided herewith is the same as the computer readable form (CRF) copy of the Sequence Listing provided herewith, and said copies include no new matter.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, prompt allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

If it would be of assistance in resolving any issues in this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact applicants' attorney Mark Gilbreth, or agent Mary Gilbreth, at 713/667-1200.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 11, 2003


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